

Appl. No. 09/628,122
Amdt. Dated January 31, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 28, 2005

REMARKS

The following remarks are responsive to the FINAL Office Action mailed January 28, 2005.

Claims 1 – 55 were pending in this Application. The Examiner has allowed Claims 1-5, 16-20, 31-39, 42-46 and 51-55. Furthermore, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 7-10, 12-15, 22-25, and 27-30 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment After Final, Applicant cancels Claims 6, 11, 21, 26, 40-41, and 47-50 without prejudice and reserves all arguments for allowability for any continuation application.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending Claims are patentable over the cited art of record and are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejection and pass this application to allowance.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite the allowance of the claims, the Examiner is invited to contact Stuart P. Kaler at (707) 824-2487.

Respectfully submitted,

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